

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph 0022 beginning on page 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1
[0022] Referring to Figure 2, a block diagram of an architecture for an improved telecommunications network 20 according to the invention and that eliminates the use of dedicated circuits 17 and the problems identified above is shown. Specifically, Figure 2 shows MSC1 14(a) attempting to page a mobile terminal (not shown) through BSC2 12(b). As a first step, MSC1 14(a) contacts the Media Gateway Selection Node (MGWSN) 22 with a request for a circuit connection to BSC2 12(b). As shown, MSC1 14(a), along with all other MSCS 14(b...n) of the network 10, is a member of the MSC pool 24. The MSC pool 24, controlled by the MGWSN 22, facilitates connection of all of the BSCS 12(a...n) and MSCS 14(a...n) of the network 20 without the need for dedicated circuit 17. The MGWSN 22 provides a central means of pooling and controlling circuits in the core network such that no dedicated circuits from the BSCs to each MSC are required. In addition, an individual MSC can be added or removed from the pool 24 [[19]] without the BSCs 12(a..n) being aware.

Please replace paragraph 0028 beginning on page 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A2
[0028] As can be seen in Figure 3, the table 31 reflects the fact that MGW1 30(a) has been associated with to BSC1 32(a). In making this association, the MGWSN 22 has allocated connections from column 34, namely CIC001-100 34(a), for availability in completing circuit paths between BSC1 and MGW1. The allocation of CICS and the completion of circuit paths is preferably carried out dynamically as needs arise. A column 36 is provided for retaining data concerning which of the allocated CICS are available for use. Another column 38 is provided for maintaining data concerning which CICS are in use at any given time. It can be seen by the relationship of the MGW and BSC columns 30, 32, that MGW2 30(b), 30(c) has been associated with both BSC2 32(b) and BSC3 32(c). The assigned CICS are indicated in the CIC column 34 wherein